



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
MAIL STOP AF

Atty. Docket No. 2791 (203-2886)

DB
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H13B
NC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Roby, et al.

EXAMINER: G. Jackson

SERIAL NO.: 09/964,902

GROUP: 3731

FILED: September 27, 2001

DATED: January 12, 2004

FOR: **PRETREATMENT FOR
LUBRICATED SURGICAL NEEDLES**

MAIL STOP AF
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER P3700

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 6, 2003, applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 12, 2004.

Dated: January 12, 2004

PDL
Peter DeLuca